

Response to 2/23/06 Office Action
U.S. Serial No. 10/806,714
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REMARKS

The Action maintains that the application contains claims directed to six patentably distinct species (Species A-F). Applicant hereby elects with traverse to prosecute the embodiment of Species C, Figures 4-9. Pending claims 11-21, 27-31, and 38 are directed to Species C.

The Action has failed to demonstrate that a different field of search would be required for Species A-F and, at least for this reason, has failed to establish sufficient cause for requiring the election. *See* MPEP 808.02. In fact, examination of all of the species would require the same field of search. Thus, examination of all of the species would impose no undue burden on the Examiner, and election/restriction for examination purposes is improper. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the election requirement and examination of all of the species on the merits.

Moreover, should the Examiner's search fail to uncover prior art applicable to the elected Species C, Applicants assume that the Examiner will expand the scope of his search to cover the non-elected Species A, B, and D-F.

Respectfully submitted,



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